SECOND SECTION

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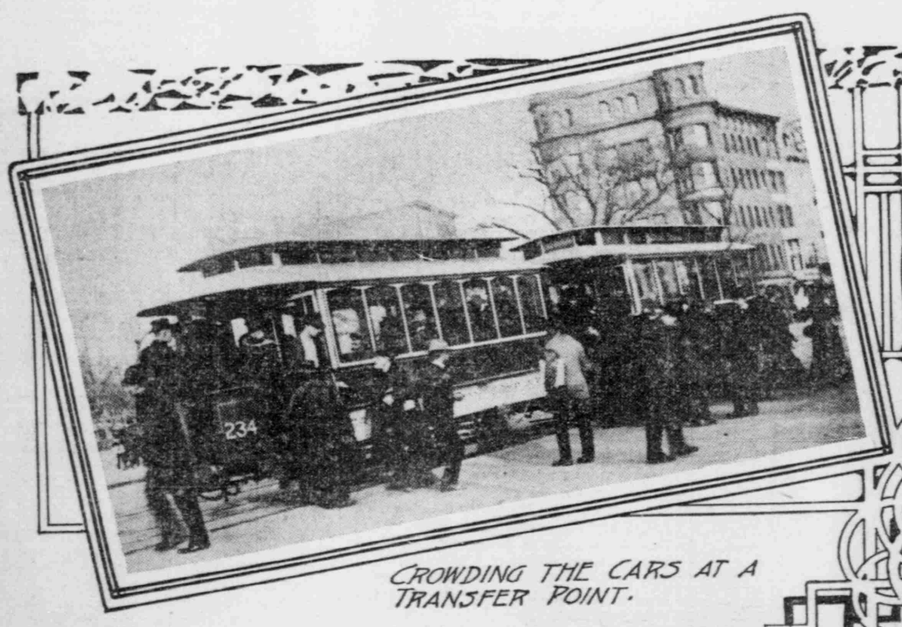
NINE O'CLOCK—"HURRY-UP" TIME IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL



CROWDING THE CARS AT A TRANSFER POINT.

LINED UP FOR THE BELL AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL

"HURRY UP OLD MAN, ITS NEARLY NINE O'CLOCK."

TWO MINUTES IN WHICH TO REACH THEIR DESKS IN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Morning Hour When the Streets of Washington Put on Their Liveliest Aspect, Thronged With Government Clerks Who Are Really in a Rush.

IN probably no other city in the world does the hour of 9 o'clock in the morning mean so much as it does in Washington. It is the great "rush hour"—the hour when the Government departments open for business and when every clerk must be found at his post.

In other towns the morning "rush" is spread over a period sometimes lasting for a number of hours in length. At 6 o'clock there is usually the "crush" of factory hands, laden with their dinner pails, and the laborers, with shovel and pick in hand. An hour or so later the "shop people" fill the cars almost to suffocation. Then, a little tardier yet, the army of downtown clerks is seen on the move, while the rear guard is brought up by portly bankers and brokers and other staid men of affairs who have reached that stage when they can afford to take their time.

But Washington differs in this thing, even as it differs from other cities in so many respects. There is one grand "rush hour" and only one. It begins just a few moments before 9 o'clock and ends promptly as the hour strikes. The reason lies in the fact that the city, to a very great extent, is in itself a vast Government machine, and a large proportion of the population begins its day's labors at the same hour. Hence results the "crush" that makes riding in street cars at this hour a thing of torment, and gives an air of bustle and activity to the sidewalks, whereon, as if by magic, throngs of hurrying men and women suddenly appear.

It is a curious thing that human nature impels the average man or woman to wait until the eleventh hour whenever there is something in any way disagreeable to be done. This holds good of almost everything, but in the case of going to work it is more expressly so. By starting a few minutes earlier, all this could be avoided, to say nothing of the anxiety over possible delays, and the fretting over the prospect of being late. But this is not to be so long as human nature retains its present stamp and mold.

Walk any morning along Pennsylvania Avenue, or in F or G Streets, or wherever there are lines of cars whirling departmentward. You will see them crowded to the very guardrails, until it would seem that the normal capacity of the vehicle had long ago been exceeded, and that nothing short of a mechanical appliance for loading human freight could have crowded so many persons aboard. It is a regular procession: car after car being heavily laden, until the round of the department is completed.

The sidewalks do their share also at this hour. Many department clerks live within an easy walking distance of their places of employment, and the cool air of morning adds zest to the hasty stroll. It is easy to recognize them as they dash along, with a cautious eye on every clock that is passed.

The entrances to the different departments from ten minutes to nine until nine o'clock resembles the entrances to the busiest of bee hives, except that the trend is always inward. The turnstile doors at the Postoffice whirl about madly in an effort to admit the crowd that is trying to pass them; and it is the same in other Government buildings.

The rush ends as suddenly as it begins. A couple of minutes after 9 o'clock the street car traffic has returned to its normal quantity, and the sidewalks have resumed their wonted appearance.

Around the public schools also, there is a 9 o'clock crowd, for, except on stormy or exceedingly unpleasant mornings the buildings are not opened until the bell rings for the school hour. On stormy days the children are admitted to the basements. But as most days are pleasant it is a customary sight to see, in the neighborhood of every public school, a chattering, playing crowd of youngsters who are awaiting the brazen summons to their studies.

Nor does the dry goods district activity of Washington begin before 9 o'clock, although the stores open at an earlier hour. But as this time is the accepted one for the great machinery of the Government to get under way, the rule seems to hold good in private and mercantile life as well—perhaps from the mere force of association. However it may be, it is a fact that not until the hour of 9 does the business of the shopping localities gain any headway, although in other cities at this time the stores are thronged with buyers.

Then It Is That the Great Well-Dressed Army of Uncle Sam's Employes Charges on the Double-Quick Upon the Various Departments.

RUINED CITIES THAT WERE ONCE THE CENTERS OF AZTEC CIVILIZATION IN MEXICO

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 28, 1903.—Another chapter has been added to the exploration of the ruined cities of Central America, once the seats of the strange Aztec civilization destroyed by Cortez nearly five centuries ago, in the recently published report of Teobert Maler, who for several years has been conducting researches among these ancient ruins in the interests of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University, and whose fully illustrated account of what he has seen and found is shortly to be issued as one of the publications of that institution.

Dr. Maler's explorations stretched over three years, and were carried on mainly in the Usumatsintla Valley, in southern Mexico. Among the long-forgotten cities which Mr. Maler visited were Yaxchilan, literally the "City of the Green Stones;" El Cayo, the "Place Where the Banks Are Strewn with Stones;" Budsilha, or "Smoking Water," from the mist rising from an adjacent waterfall; El Chile, so called from the herb from which chile sauce is made; Analte, named for the white lilies that flourish on the banks of the river; and El Chicozapote, named from a tree which produces a well-known Mexican chewing gum. These cities are all hidden in the tropical jungle, some entirely unknown even to the wandering wood cutters and gum collectors, and others visited only by mysterious bands of Indians who still come to make occasional sacrifices on their fallen altars.

The definite results of Mr. Maler's investigations were the study and photographing of some twenty stelae, or carved monoliths, on which are represented many of the scenes of Aztec daily life, in particular their religious rites; the restoration of between twenty and thirty ruined buildings—temples, tombs, and communal dwellings; and the examination of nearly fifty carved and painted lintels, many of them excavated from long-accumulated debris and never before noted by the modern explorer. In many cases the expedition has preserved the record of objects that in another century would have entirely vanished, for the changing course of the Usumatsintla River has already eaten away the former water front of some of the cities.

Tenosique, where Mr. Maler made his preparations for plunging into the Mexican wilderness, is a small town about five days' sail from the Gulf of Mexico up the Usumatsintla, which here flows between modern Mexico and Guatemala. From here to El Cayo, the first of the ruined cities, was another four days' journey, overland, with camp equipage, cameras, servants, and pack animals. Budsilha is not far from El Cayo, and La Mar—another town visited by Mr. Maler—is in the same neighborhood, but the two are separated by a tangle of tropical vegetation through which the explorers made their way only with the greatest difficulty. Interesting finds were made in all these places—in El Cayo, for example, the figure of a god that dates back, perhaps, to the very earliest period of teh city, yet which had evidently been worshiped even up to our own times, as was shown by the presence of several broken incense vessels in the tumble down room in which the image was discovered.

At La Mar there still remained sufficient evidence of its ancient structures to reconstruct a very good picture of one of the smaller cities of the Aztec period. The architectural center of the city, it was found, was formed by two temples, now in ruins, which crowned two pyramids, one facing to the east and the other to the west. Between the pyramids was a wide plaza bordered on the north and south by smaller buildings. The plaza was originally ornamented with stelae, one of which, although serving only to adorn so small a city as La Mar, is a splendid specimen of the best contemporary Aztec sculpture.

It has been suggested that Yaxchilan, the most important of the ancient cities which Mr. Maler visited, may have been the town referred to by Cortez in a letter to his master, the Emperor Charles V, although Mr. Maler himself rather doubts the identification. The ruins have been visited in modern times by more than one explorer, and in 1882, when the city was visited by Desire Charney, a French archaeologist whose expedition was supported by funds from his home government and from the American millionaire, Lorillard, in whose honor Mr. Charney called the place "Lorillard City." Mr. Maler, however, has succeeded not only in uncovering numerous hitherto unnoted sculptured stone monuments from the debris that now overflows its terraces and esplanades, but also in discovering certain important temples.

"There must have been heavy rainfalls in distant Guatemala and eastern Chiapas," says Dr. Maler in the new Peabody Museum report, describing his approach to Yaxchilan, "for the Usumatsintla was excessively high, having risen to the very edge of the high banks, which made progress up the river exceedingly difficult, since the poles by which the cayuco is propelled could not reach the hard bottom. Under such circumstances forked branches are made fast to the end of the poles, and with these 'horquetas' the men seize the overhanging branches of the trees and shrubs and thus push the cayuco forward, while those not occupied with the poles grasp the branches, if possible, with their hands and pull with all their might. This procedure is exceedingly laborious, and progress is slow. In this manner it took us a day and a half to overcome the short distance between Anaite and Yaxchilan. When the river is in this condition no one attempts to go upstream; the labor and the danger are too great. In point of fact, we had a terrible struggle. We had to force our way through branches of trees projecting out of the water, and often we had to use our machetes to remove the obstacles impeding our way. In spite of all our exertions we were frequently whirled around by the force of the current and carried downstream. Masses of trees which reached far out into the river could not be surmounted, nor powerful rapids overcome, without two or three successive attempts.

"When we rested at night," he continues, "we fastened our cayuco to the branches of a great chimon and protected ourselves and our baggage as well as we could with oiled cloths against the heavy night rains. It was not possible to go on shore, as everything was flooded. At noon of the second day we finally arrived at the ruined city, the location of which one of my men recognized by certain signs. The 'cuyo' on the low shore which generally serves to mark the spot had entirely vanished under the water. We now breathed more freely, and, glad of having thus far surmounted all difficulties, we fastened our cayuco to a tree. My men admired each other as heroes, and each one asserted that had it not been for him, we never could have come up the river.

"In the meantime we sought shelter in the neighboring 'shore temple.' But as the entire stone structure was soaked with rain and all the ceilings dripped with moisture, my men constructed for themselves a palm-leaf hut, while I, after discovering the 'Labyrinth,' (Dr. Maler's name for a structure afterward explored more thoroughly) settled myself within its walls with my most important baggage, for the ceilings were dry, and the great stone benches were very convenient for sleeping purposes or for spreading my things upon them.

"It was rather dangerous to spend the nights alone in that solitary ruin on account of the tigers. But fortunately we escaped all collision with these felines, which are always to be greatly feared. We were so fortunate as to have a month of glorious weather, which greatly lessened the difficulties of my work among the ruins. It generally rained at night and hardly ever by day. Even the Usumatsintla soon sank to a less dangerous level. But we had another trouble to contend against. Our stock of provisions had run very low, because the men when living at some one else's expense eat enormously and know no moderation." Later, it ma be added, provisions were obtained, a some three months were spent in amining and excavating the ruin deeply buried under a tangle of shrubs, and tropical creepers was only possible to picture eral plan of the city after ea ture had been examined in de

But this plan, once com sents a curiously vivid picture of temples, dwellings, altars, and palaces. The ancient city was not a city of streets but of terraces rising from a water front that is slowly and inevitably being eaten away by the turbulence of the river. Many of the structures were so overgrown that they could not be excavated and photographs of var parts of the ruins had to special mome when its way thro and there altars, pr of perso were m on be ple ar

HISTORY OF THE SPLENDID MONUMENT TO THE DUKE OF WELLINGTO

THE splendid monument to the memory of the great Duke of Wellington in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, is now regarded as the finest sculptural work ever produced by an Englishman. It was designed by Alfred Stevens, who, in 1857, accepted "in an evil hour for himself," as one biography says, the government commission to execute the monument. The sum voted for the work, £14,000, proved quite inadequate, and Stevens spent on it much of his private means. Eventually, worn down by anxiety, he left it to be finished by others. His model for the complete work, however, is still in existence, and will of course be followed in any plan to complete the monument. Stevens died in 1875, broken-hearted, it is said.

From time to time since the death of the sculptor efforts have been made to secure the completion of the monument, but they came to nothing. The late Lord Leighton, P. R. A., was at the head of one of these movements, which seemed to promise success, but Lord Leighton's death put an end to it.

According to a statement issued by a private committee, with the Bishop of Stepney at its head, an article in the "Saturday Review" three years ago led to a revival of interest in the matter. Lord Hardwicke was the originator of this movement. He questioned the then premier, Lord Salisbury, in the house of lords, but received no encouragement for the hope that the government might take action. It was then determined to rely on private effort. It was ascertained that the model was available; that the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, whose permission was necessary, were willing to consider a proposal for the completion of the monument, and that funds sufficient to cover an estimate made after careful inquiry would be forthcoming from a body of private subscribers.

The promoters then formed a committee, of which the Bishop of Stepney consented to be chairman, with Lord Hardwicke as treasurer. The committee approached the dean and chapter and obtained their assent to the scheme, on the conditions that all indications of Stevens' intentions were to be followed as strictly as possible; that the sculptor proposed should be approved by them, and that he should submit a model and a statement showing what he proposed to do by way of preparing Stevens' group for the bronze founder. The committee accepted these conditions.

The portion of the committee's statement which has created the most interest, and which has led to an animated and bitter newspaper discussion, is as follows:

"They (the committee) then bought from Mrs. Stannus, who had loyally guarded it since the death of its designer, Stevens' plaster model, and proposed to the chapter the name of John Tweed, whose ability had been vouched for by high artistic authority, and whose zeal for Stevens' fame was known to them. He prepared a reduced model and drew up the required statement, acting in close co-operation with Somers Clarke, surveyor of the cathedral, who had been actively interested in the previous efforts to complete the monument and whom the dean and chapter consult in all matters pertaining to the cathedral monuments. The dean and chapter then declared themselves satisfied and Mr. Tweed was commissioned to proceed with the work.

"It cannot be too clearly understood that Stevens' design is, in all essentials, complete; and that its general effect will in no way be altered by the work that has to be done with a view to preparing it for casting. Several broken or missing details have to be supplied, but ample authority exists for them in the original sketch model at Kensington. In other details the indication of surface modeling is left in the rough, but sufficiently defined, and a competent sculptor will be able to get the surface into a condition congruous with the bronze of the existing groups by faithfully following existing indications. There is, therefore, no question of a new designer being called in or another sculptor glorified at the expense of Stevens."

It now appears that while the private committee has been at work, it has known nothing of the fact that the British government has at last been persuaded to provide the funds for the completion of the monument. The sum required is estimated at only £2,000.

Of course this complicates the situation, but the chief trouble has been caused by doubts as to whether Mr. Tweed is the right man to complete the monument. His ability is undoubted, but he is a young artist, and is a pupil of Rodin, "mightiest of modern sculptors, yet most unsafe of guides and masters, especially where the relation of sculpture to architecture is in question," as the "Daily Telegraph" remarks. The same paper goes on to say:

"It is yet to be ascertained whether he (Mr. Tweed) possesses the precise quality which would enable him to perform with the necessary skill and patience, with the necessary subordination of self, the very delicate and important task thus confided to him.

"Had we not in our eyes, our thoughts, and our memories the art vandalism of these cr permitted by the d that is to say, the noble structure of decorations which it in conception an to enhance or even we might feel m actually do at part of the mo right, to decid posterity, in a portance as th authority hav them to pron tions the ult could only b of highly tr hand, to a the other, sustained ap plation of in competent to clusions, and terests of th

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